	Mining & Quarrying	Manufacturing	Electricity	OVERALL
1998	7.2	5.9	8.3	6.2
JAN-MAR				
APR-JUN	−0.3	4.3	10.2	4.4
JUL-SEP	−0.5	3.9	4.6	3.5
OCT-DEC	−2.5	2.9	5.0	2.6

The slowdown in industrial growth is due to factors such as falling export growth due to an overall slump in the world trade and a decline in investment activity. There has been a consequent slackening of domestic demand across most sectors.

Revival of National Instruments Limited and Cycle Corporation of India

665. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI JIBON ROY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering revival of National Instruments Limited and Cycle Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the status of the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) to (c)

National Instruments Ltd.:

As per directions of BIFR in its hearing held on 13.8.97, SBI the Operating Agency, has formulated a Revival plan for National Instruments Ltd. after holding joint discussions with all parties concerned, Operating Agency have submitted its report to BIFR on 30.10.98. BIFR has circulated the Draft Revival Scheme on 1.2.99 inviting suggestions/objections etc. from the concerned parties. BIFR has fixed its next hearing on 15.4.1999.

Cycle Corporation of India Ltd.:

A revival plan submitted by a private company is under consideration of BIFR.

Closure of PSUs

666. SHRI N.R. DASARI:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are reconsidering their earlier decision to close down eight Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details and alternate plan under consideration to revive these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) and (b) A decision was taken by the Government to provide benefits of Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) to the employees of 8 unviable sick PSUs facing the prospect of winding up on the recommendations of BIFR/Disinvestment Commission. A Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) was accordingly introduced in these units for a period of 3 months.

Government have decided to extend by another 3 months the initial offer of Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS). A group of Experts is being set up to review the possibilities of revival of atleast some of these units.

Revival of Burn Standard Company Ltd., Calcutta

667. SHRI JALALUDDIN ANSARI:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Govern-

ment have decided to revive Burn Standard Company Ltd., Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the details of the revival plan of the Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) Government have positively responded to the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme circulated by BIFR for revival of the Company.

(b) The cost of the scheme as circulated by BIFR is Rs. 151.04 crore, out of which Rs. 132.51 crore is to be provided by Government including Rs. 34 crore for VRS for surplus manpower/employees of non viable units. Other reliefs and concessions from GOI include conversion of Plan loan of Rs. 46.65 crore into equity, conversion of non-plan loan of Rs. 89.07 crore into zero rate debenture and waiver of outstanding GOI interest of Rs. 329.64 crore. In addition, certain reliefs and concessions have to be provided by Banks, FIs, State Governments etc.

Implementation of Revival Schemes

668. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of revival schemes sanctioned by BIFR for Braithwaite Limited, Bharat Brakes and Valves, Reyrolle Burn Limited and Jessop; and

(b) the reasons for the delay and non-fulfilment of the targets, if any, during the implementation of the schemes and the agencies responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) The revival schemes sanctioned by BIFR for Braithwaite & Company Limited, Bharat Brakes & Valves Ltd., RBL Limited and Jessop & Company Limited are under implementation.

(b) Various factors like sanction of scheme after the cut-off date leading to resource gap, delay in issue of administrative approval, IR problems, lack of orders, inadequate flow of working capital from Banks, low productivity, etc. have resulted in shortfall in performance.

टर्मिनेटर जीन का पेटेंट किया जाना

669. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र:** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अमरीका सरकार और डेल्टा एण्ड पाईन लैंड ने भारत में टर्मिनेटर जीन् का पेटेंट कराने के लिए संयुक्त रूप से आवेदन दिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार का इस पर क्या रुख है; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि विशिष्ट बिक्री अधिकार (ई०एम०आर०) मिलने के बाद इस टर्मिनेटर जीन के भारत आने का रास्ता आसान हो जायेगा?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): (क) वाशिंगटन डीसी, अमेरिका तथा डेल्टा तथा पाइन लैण्ड क० स्काट, मिसीसिपी, अमेरिका के एक प्रतिनिधि के रूप में संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका ने "कन्ट्रोल ऑफ प्लान्ट जीन एक्सप्रेसन" से संबंधित पेटेन्ट के लिए 11 सितम्बर, 1995 को भारत के पेटेन्ट कार्यालय में पेटेन्ट हेतु एक आवेदन पत्र दायर किया है।

(ख) इस आवेदन-पत्र पर पेटेन्ट अधिनियम, 1970 के प्रावधानों के अनुसार जांच की जायेगी।

(ग) समापक (टर्मिनेटर) जीन भारत में प्रवेश नहीं कर सकता है, क्योंकि यह एक रीकम्बीनेन्ट उत्पाद है तथा देश में इसके लिए कड़े जीव मार्ग-निर्देशन हैं। राष्ट्रीय प्लान्ट जैनेटिक संसाधन ब्यूरो देश में समापक (टर्मिनेटर) जीन सहित बीजों को प्रवेश की अनुमति नहीं देगा।